

U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of Virginia*

*World Trade Center 757/441-6331
Suite 8000, 101 West Main Street
Norfolk, Va. 23510*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2002

For further information contact
Deanna Warren 757-441-6331

PRESS RELEASE

Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Jerry Glenn Joshua, age 42, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, was found guilty of being a felon in possession of a firearm late Thursday evening, October 31st, by a federal jury in Norfolk, following a two day trial. Sentencing has been set for January 22, 2003. As an armed career criminal, Joshua faces a mandatory minimum of fifteen years in prison and a maximum of life.

The federal charges arose out of a burglary investigation conducted by the Virginia Beach Police Department in April 2001. The government produced evidence that the defendant used a stolen shotgun to buy crack cocaine from a crack dealer in Norfolk. The dealer was subsequently also prosecuted and convicted in federal and testified at the trial of Joshua. Both Joshua's and his supplier's cases were referred for federal prosecution under Project EXILE.

Project EXILE is a multi-agency joint federal and state task force targeting armed criminals for prosecution in federal court for possession or use of firearms in violation of federal laws. It is a part of Project Safe Neighborhoods, a nationwide effort by the Department of Justice aimed at reducing violent crimes.

Joshua's case was investigated by ATF and officers from the Virginia Beach Police Department, and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James A. Metcalfe.